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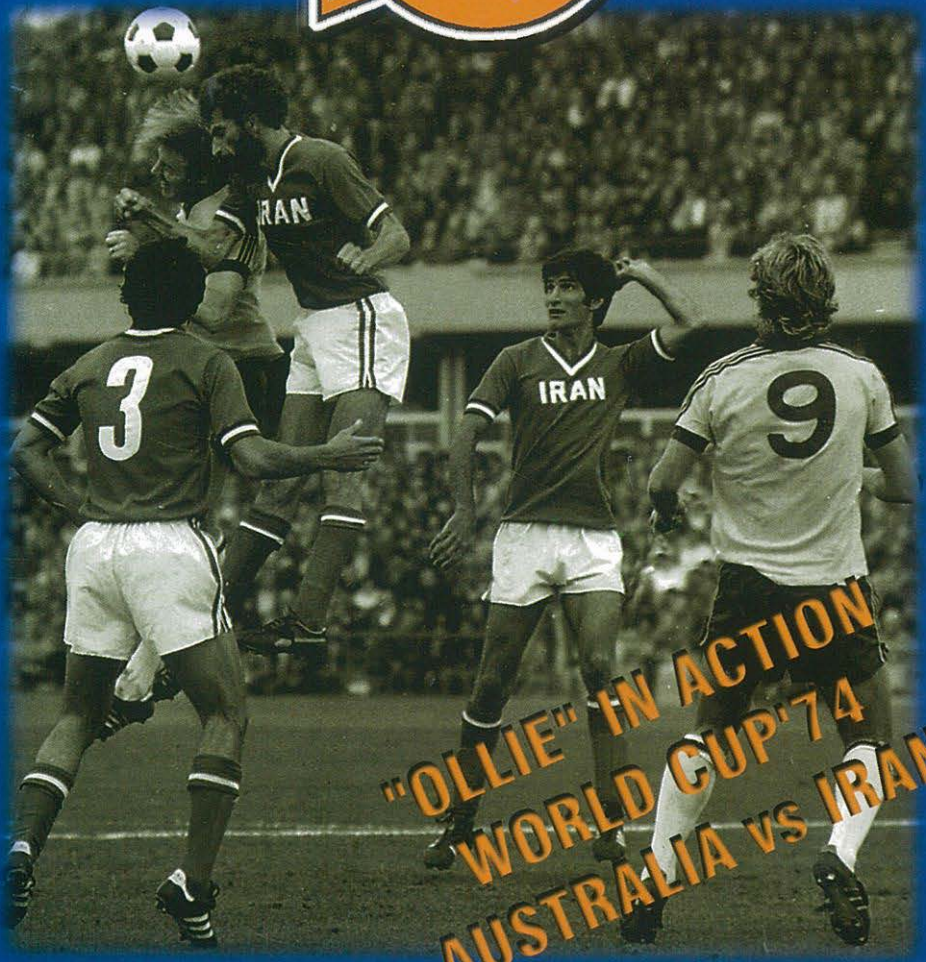


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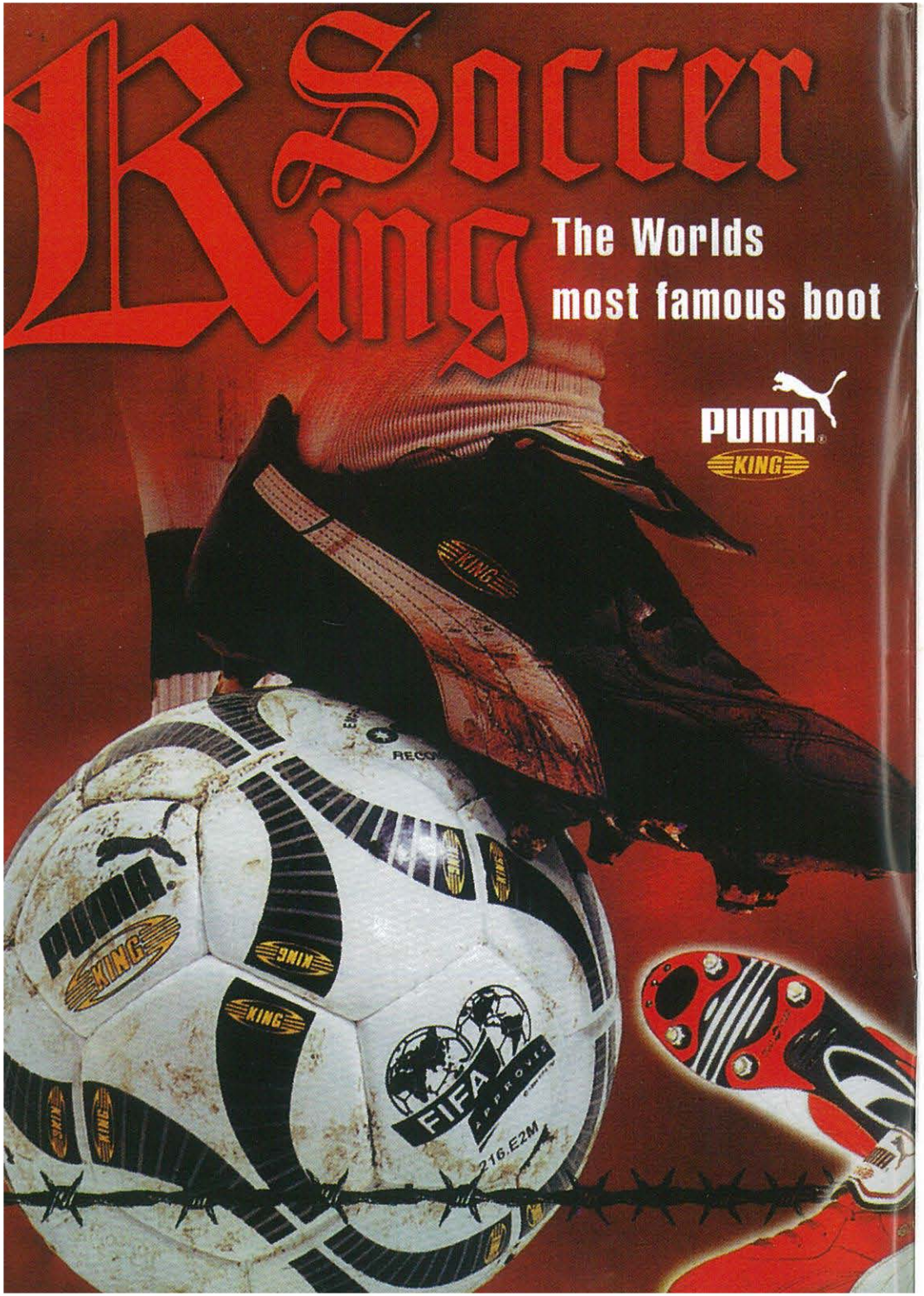


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## MESSAGE FROM GEORGE VASILOPOULOS

This weekend promises to be the most important in Victorian soccer history. Tomorrow night we will undoubtedly see the full house sign up at the Mecca of Australian Sport, the MCG. Australian soccer has come a long way since 1974. We now have a successful and truly National competition, something that no other code can boast about. We are also on the verge of playing against the world's elite in France '98 as well as playing in the Intercontinental Cup in Saudi Arabia later this year.

We would like to welcome all of the interstate visitors to our lovely city and hope you enjoy tonight's game, I'm sure you'll find it a great appetizer to tomorrow's festivities. Please feel welcome to enjoy a cold drink at our social club, "The Champions Sports Bar".

Tonight's game should be an entertaining encounter. The Wollongong Wolves have a formidable outfit, capable of challenging for this years major honors. Nick Theodorakopoulos and Wolves management must be commended for their improvement, on and off the field.

Enjoy the game, and my best wishes go to Terry Venables, Paul Trimboli and the Socceroos. The whole country is behind you.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE COACH

Although our start to the season has been good in comparison to most other teams, at our last home game there was a sense of disappointment in the crowd.

I can assure you that this disappointment was reflected in the dressing rooms by both players and staff. I guess it is the price you pay for being at a big Club. An 8 game unbeaten run is good, *but not good enough.* We accept that and are working hard to make sure that we improve our performances and our results.

One thing that can certainly help us in our cause however is the support of the crowd. It certainly makes a difference to the players when the supporters are **firmly** behind them.

There's no doubt that this year it will be a very tight League, with many teams in contention and any small advantage we can have is going to keep us ahead of the chasing pack.

There's nothing like a full Bob Jane Stadium to lift our team and intimidate the opposition. So today, show your support and I'm sure the players will respond, giving us all the satisfaction of a job well done.

And don't forget to head to the MCG tomorrow, creating more of that atmosphere that will help the Aussies reach France '98.

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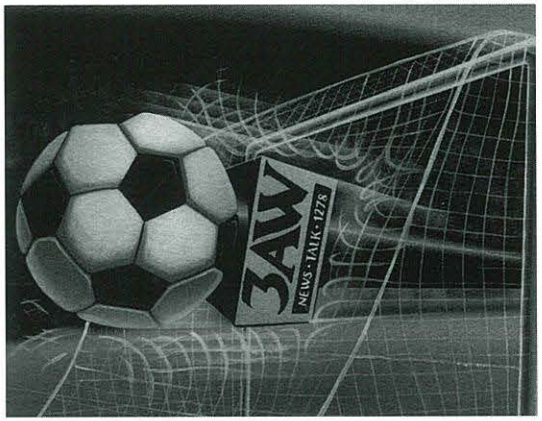


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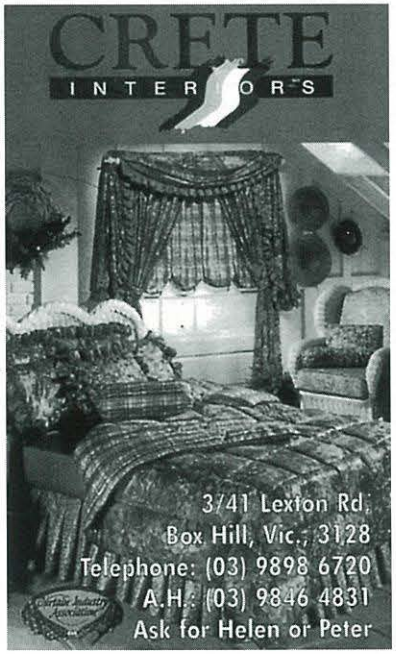


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Our land a-bounds in na-ture's gifts, of beau-ty rich and rare,
In his-t'ry's page, let ev'-ry stage Ad-vance Aus-tra-lia fair;
In joy-ful strains then let us sing, Ad-vance Aus-tra-lia fair.

Be-neath our ra-diant South-ern Cross, we'll toil with hearts and hands,
To make this Comm-on-wealth of ours, re-nowned of all the lands;
For those who've come a-cross the seas, we've bound-less plains to share,
With cou-rage let us all combine to Ad-vance Aus-tra-lia fair;
In joy-ful strains then let us sing, Ad-vance Aus-tra-lia fair.




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# SUPPORTERS GROUP

This Sunday (30th November, 11:00 am) the Supporters Group would like to see as many Lakers members (SMSC Members & Life Members) as possible at the South Melbourne Soccer Clubs' Annual General Meeting. A Lakers AGM will just be the tonic to help shake off that hangover that most of us will have after the victory celebrations (hopefully) of the Socceroos qualifying for France 98.

As the Club has stated - *"There are a number of very important issues to be discussed, so it is paramount that every Member and Life Member is present to voice their opinion".*

On the 14th of July, 1996 an extraordinary general meeting was held at the Champions Sports Bar to discuss a number of matters relating to changes happening within the National Soccer League and the impending effects on the South Melbourne Soccer Club.

Past South Melbourne President Mr. Leo Anezakis made some very forthright comments and strongly emphasized that the game (and the club) must move forward, and that no one has the right to halt the progress of Australian soccer. This meeting will also see a number of important issues discussed relating to the future direction of the club, and it is important that all Lakers fans take a more active interest in their club. With our country's imminent qualification for the World Cup in France the game is set to boom on all sides. Radical changes are also being discussed at the moment regarding the structure and make up of the league next year. All clubs shall be required to justify their position in the league, including the Lakers.

The last number of years have been extremely hectic for our Club. Firstly there were the tireless efforts made by the Club (stretching back to at least 1988) to improve the facilities (grandstand/ social club, floodlights) at our beloved Middle Park ground only to be hampered time and time again by bureaucratic red tape. Finally the Club won an "unwinnable" battle at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal and it was announced that the Club would build a $2 million dollar social complex . The jubilation was short-lived and the Club was told that our Middle Park ground would be bulldozed to make way for the Australian F1 Grand Prix. That was followed by some conjecture between Souths the Melbourne Major Events company and Melb. Park & Waterways over the funding of our new stadium at Lakeside. This was smoothed over when the Clubs Number 1 ticket holder the Hon Jeff Kennett intervened. Meanwhile the club became nomads for a while moving from training venue to training venue and playing at Olympic Park. Off the park huge efforts were being made to resource and orchestrate the building of our new stadium at the old Lakeside Oval.

The hard work and the personal sacrifice of the board and the many other volunteers which helped to realize the dream of many before culminated in the completion of Bob Jane Stadium, and the Champions Sports Bar - our social club. A great team, a fantastic social club and a modern stadium in picturesque surroundings - All Lakers fans should be proud of what the Club has achieved.

The hard work hasn't stopped there however. This year the Lakers board together with giant sports marketing company Flying Start Australia are working tirelessly to enable the Club to progress to the next stage and ensure that the Lakers have a bright future in the Ericsson Cup. They must be given every opportunity to succeed. Now is the time for the Club to realize its full potential, whilst we are still in control of our own destiny. Lets not miss the boat. We hope to see you, and more importantly hear you at the AGM.

**GO LAKERS**

PS The Lakers would also like to welcome the many interstate visitors who have travelled to Melbourne for the World Cup qualifier and are here at tonight's match. Enjoy the game and don't forget to drop in at Champion's Sports Bar afterwards for a drink and a chance to meet the players!

# PETER OLLERTON: OUR WORLD CUP HERO

Born in England in 1951, he was brought up not even knowing that Australia existed, but by 1974 he was part of one of Australia's greatest sides, playing in the World Cup.

He left school at the age of 14 to become an apprentice footballer at Blackpool F.C, in the English first division, where he played for three years. At the age of 18 he suffered a terrible ankle injury, which consequently cost him his spot in the squad. Subsequently he was loaned out to non-league club, Macclesfield Town, where he performed well and resulted in offers from clubs such as Tottenham and Stoke City. Unfortunately due to varying reasons things didn't quite work out, so when Fred Hutchinson from Ringwood approached him after a game, with a contract to join the Victorian State League team, Peter thought long and hard about his future, before conceding that things weren't going as expected in England and at the age of 19, he would travel to Australia.

He quickly made his presence felt and it wasn't long before he was representing Victoria. It was at a game against Brazilian team Santos, that he stood out and consequently was recruited by Joe Marsden to APIA for an Australian record fee of $8,000. He was to find some fine company in Sydney, people such as Jimmy Rooney and Billy Rogers. Again he quickly made his mark, playing so well that within 6 months he was added to the Socceroos squad, which had already qualified for the '74 World Cup. He scored in his Australian debut in Sydney against Uruguay, which allowed him to cement a place for the '74 World Cup squad.

Australia performed very well, but without much luck, loosing a very even game to East Germany, where both goals were scored late in the game. Against eventual champions West Germany, Ollerton hit the post and Abonyi had the ball cleared off the line. Despite being worthy victors, the 3-0 result flattered the West Germans, as Australia more than accounted for themselves. Against Chile, Australia had more of the play, only to end up with a 0-0 result. From a playing point of view Ollerton describes the experience as "The easiest type of soccer I've ever had to play, because they don't tackle you, they basically let you to receive the ball and turn with the ball. They allowed you to get into the forward third and then they pressured you. It was much easier than playing in a (Victorian) Premier League game".

The current crop of Socceroos are set to earn approximately $60,000 if they qualify tomorrow night which is probably spare change to the Saudi players at the moment. Back in the seventies, despite being away from home weeks at a time, the Socceroos were only earning approximately $25 a day and at the World Cup they received a incentive of $500 per point earned. When you consider the difficulty in holding down a job due to travel, and the time away from family, you start to realise how difficult it would have been. Ollerton was very lucky, because the company he worked for understood his situation and when he was at SM he stated that "I would go away on World Cup duty or playing an international in New Zealand; I might be away for 2 to 3 weeks and there would be my 2-3 weeks wages from the club".

In 1975 Ollerton married and moved back to Melbourne. He was snapped up by South Melbourne Hellas for about $12,000, again a phenomenal fee for those times. Only an exceptional player could demand such fees, and Ollerton definitely was that. He was made captain in his first season at SMH. This was a great era for SMH, we were winning trophy after trophy, the crowds were very healthy and the players were rightfully treated as gods. Peter Ollerton was one of many greats in those sides, there was also Jimmy Arstrong, Jim Mckay and John Kennedy. The unfortunate thing is that we rarely hear anything about these people, as the media have brain washed us into thinking Aussie Rules players are the only sports people worthy of recognition from the seventies.

In 1977 Ollerton was part of our first National League season. In the first game in the new league, against Sydney Olympic in Sydney, Ollerton arrived from international duty from New Zealand on the morning of the game. He hadn't been with the SM squad for a few weeks and he met some of the new players, for the first time, just before the game. This definitely didn't hamper his performance. He scored the first ever NSL goal in the second minute of the game and followed it up with a second in the 20th minute. The final score was 2-0 and a new era in Australian soccer began.

Ollerton was part of the 1977 campaign for the '78 World Cup. Again Australia was to come against Iran. This was his first venture to the Teheran Stadium situated about an hour and a half outside of the city. When describing the stadium Ollerton stated "The ground is not what people expect to see and nobody's really talked about it. The ground is built underground, it's like a dome. So when you're driving to the ground, you can't actually see it and I thought we were driving to the end of the world. You actually drive down into the stadium and this stadium is just absolutely enormous. When we first trained on it , you hit the ball and you could hear the echo. And once you've got 120,000 people in the stadium, it's like playing against 250,000 Iranians". Unfortunately things didn't quite go the same as '73 with Australia drawing 1-1 at Olympic Park before going down 2-0 in Iran.



When comparing the '74 side to the present one Ollerton stated that "They're a different type of side. We had what I call that real British Bulldog type aggression and great spirit, we just really beat sides through spirit alone. And I question: has this side got that same type of spirit? They all play away from each other in different countries. I know what the feeling would be in the camp now, they'll be together, they'll be really looking forward to the game, the spirit will be fairly high. But when the 11 take the field, whether or not there's boys on the park that can grab a hold of somebody and say, *'hey you c'mon, this is it, this is all what it's all about, you've got to break your balls, break your leg, break your eye open, you've got to do whatever, if the ball's there you've got to go for it'.* Whether they've got that, is a question mark. As far as ability, it is there, as far as 74 to 97, I don't know how people can compare the two. I would say that we were very good players, I class myself as probably the best centre forward ever to have played in Australia. **I look at Viduka and people like that, well Viduka couldn't lace my boots.**

At a time where an Aussie soccer fan's dreams seem to have come true, where we can pick up the newspaper and be guaranteed to have pages of stories on anything to do with the Socceroos, it was interesting to gain a gauge as to how the media was like around 1973-74. Ollerton stated " We made the headlines for 4 or 5 days when we first qualified, then over a period of time it went dead again. And of course when it was coming around to the squad being announced for the 1974 World Cup, obviously the vibes became strong again and the press and journalists and TV camera crews all of a sudden started appearing at the hotel before we left to go overseas. The hype is no more greater now than what it was then, but unfortunately we're talking 24 years ago now and has the game kicked on since then? I would have to say I don't think it has. Because although we've got an excellent chance of qualifying this year, I really feel that even if they do, what is it really going to do for Australian soccer here? Are we going to live in the hype for 4 weeks while the World Cup is on, while Australia is there and then they come back and players go overseas and players go back to their own clubs and soccer is just soccer again?"

Peter Ollerton is a man who commands respect for everything he achieved on the park as well as for his character off it. He is a man that speaks his mind and emotions. But most importantly he is a SM legend, deserving of greater recognition than he, and others with similar backgrounds, have had over the years. Hopefully if all goes well tomorrow, the media will again jump on the band wagon as they did 24 years ago. But lets hope the band wagon never stops, allowing the current and future Peter Ollertons to gain their much deserved recognition.

# 1963

In 1963 South Melbourne recruited Victorian representative Tommy Anderson from George Cross and John Anderson from Hakaoh. But despite these star recruits the season was not a successful one, with South Melbourne finishing 6th behind winners JUST.

Success almost came in the pre-season Ampol Cup competition but South fell at the last hurdle being beaten 1-0 by Polonia in the final. John Margaritis was top scorer that season with 7 but he was way behind the league's top scorer Eddy Jankowski of Polonia who bagged 21.

## Results Grid

| | Cro | GC | Hak | JUST | Juve | Lion | Melb | Pol | R'md | Slav | SMH | Wil |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cro | ** | 1-1 | 5-1 | 3-3 | 1-1 | 0-3 | 1-0 | 0-5 | 3-0 | 1-3 | 1-1 | 2-2 |
| GC | 1-1 | ** | 2-2 | 0-2 | 0-1 | 2-0 | 1-0 | 1-1 | 3-0 | 0-1 | 3-1 | 4-2 |
| Hakoah | 4-2 | 2-3 | ** | 1-3 | 0-3 | 2-2 | 0-4 | 3-1 | 5-0 | 0-1 | 0-1 | 1-2 |
| J.U.S.T. | 6-0 | 2-0 | 2-0 | ** | 2-1 | 1-1 | 5-1 | 1-2 | 5-0 | 3-1 | 1-1 | 1-0 |
| Juve | 3-1 | 2-4 | 1-1 | 2-5 | ** | 3-0 | 0-1 | 1-3 | 3-0 | 0-0 | 2-1 | 1-2 |
| Lions | 4-1 | 0-4 | 1-2 | 0-7 | 1-3 | ** | 0-2 | 1-6 | 3-2 | 1-0 | 2-3 | 1-0 |
| Melb | 0-1 | 1-2 | 1-1 | 4-2 | 4-0 | 2-4 | ** | 2-1 | 3-0 | 1-2 | 1-1 | 3-1 |
| Polonia | 5-0 | 1-1 | 5-0 | 1-1 | 2-2 | 3-2 | 4-0 | ** | 4-0 | 0-0 | 1-1 | 4-1 |
| Rich | 1-3 | 0-4 | 1-4 | 0-4 | 2-2 | 2-3 | 0-0 | 2-5 | ** | 3-2 | 2-2 | 1-0 |
| Slavia | 4-1 | 1-2 | 3-1 | 1-1 | 1-1 | 0-2 | 4-0 | 1-7 | 0-0 | ** | 0-1 | 0-2 |
| SMH | 1-0 | 1-1 | 0-0 | 1-1 | 0-2 | 1-2 | 1-0 | 1-2 | 4-2 | 1-2 | ** | 3-4 |
| Wil | 2-0 | 3-1 | 4-6 | 2-3 | 6-0 | 4-2 | 3-2 | 1-0 | 2-3 | 0-1 | 1-1 | ** |

## Final League Ladder

| Team | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| JUST | 22 | 14 | 6 | 2 | 60 | 22 | 34 |
| Polonia | 22 | 13 | 6 | 3 | 63 | 21 | 32 |
| George Cross | 22 | 11 | 6 | 5 | 40 | 25 | 28 |
| Slavia | 22 | 10 | 4 | 8 | 28 | 28 | 24 |
| Wilhelmina | 22 | 10 | 2 | 10 | 44 | 40 | 22 |
| **Sth Melb Hellas** | **22** | **6** | **9** | **7** | **28** | **30** | **21** |
| Juventus | 22 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 34 | 38 | 21 |
| Lions | 22 | 9 | 2 | 11 | 35 | 49 | 20 |
| Melbourne | 22 | 8 | 3 | 11 | 32 | 34 | 19 |
| Hakoah | 22 | 6 | 5 | 11 | 37 | 47 | 17 |
| Croatia | 22 | 5 | 6 | 11 | 28 | 51 | 16 |
| Richmond | 22 | 3 | 4 | 15 | 20 | 64 | 10 |



# YOUTH TEAMS REPORT

## TEAM LISTS

**YOUTH TEAM**

1 Theodore Patsiotis
2 Socratis Pappas
3 Louie Rozanitis
4 Zivanovic
5 Robert Liparoti
6 Tas Psonis
7 Gary Kostakis
8 Kon Karasavidis
10 James Kasikakis
11 Sam Klidonas
12 Tas Tragakis
13 Evan Papadopoulos
14 John Tambouras
15 Jim Drossos
18 Grant Kennedy

**ROCKETS**

1 Frank Manganis
2 Aleksandar Mrkic
3 Phillip Klathas
4 Adem Kose
5 Nondas Manolitsis
6 Ozan Kara
7 Julian Zach
8 Leigh Squillacioti
9 Erhan Bayraktar
10 George Loupos
11 Aytac Yilmaz
12 Joseph Falcone
13 Armando De Oliveira
14 Stuart Jones
15 Christhian Barra
16 Steve Hatzi
17 Greg Trapis
18 Robert Murone
20 Nick Flaounas

**LEAGUE LADDER**
**SOUTHERN DIVISION**

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | Pts | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Carlton** | **6** | **6** | **0** | **0** | **16** | **2** | **18** | |
| **Melbourne Knights** | **6** | **5** | **0** | **1** | **28** | **8** | **15** | |
| **Gippsland Falcons** | **5** | **5** | **0** | **0** | **9** | **2** | **15** | |
| **Heidelberg United** | **6** | **4** | **0** | **2** | **10** | **7** | **12** | |
| **Bulleen Inter** | **6** | **3** | **1** | **2** | **8** | **7** | **10** | |
| **Bentleigh Greens** | **6** | **2** | **1** | **3** | **6** | **8** | **7** | |
| **VIS** | **5** | **2** | **0** | **3** | **9** | **9** | **6** | |
| **South Melbourne** | **6** | **1** | **1** | **4** | **7** | **11** | **4** | |
| **Altona Magic** | **6** | **1** | **1** | **4** | **7** | **17** | **4** | |
| **South Melbourne Rockets** | **5** | **1** | **0** | **4** | **6** | **27** | **3** | |
| **Albury-Wodonga** | | **7** | **0** | **0** | **7** | **7** | **15** | **0** |

**ROUND 8 RESULTS**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Carlton | v | Bentleigh Greens | 3 - 0 |
| Altona Magic | v | Heidelberg United | 1 - 4 |
| VIS | v | Melbourne Knights | 3 - 4 |
| South Melbourne | v | Albury Wodonga | 4 - 2 |

**THIS WEEK'S GAMES**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fri Nov 28 | Rockets | v | Albury Wodonga | Bob Jane Stadium | 3..30pm |
| Sun Nov 30 | VIS | v | Youth | Kim Reserve | 4.00pm |

**NEXT WEEK'S GAMES**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sat Dec 6 | Altona Magic | v | Youth | Paisley Park | 5.30pm |
| Sun Dec 7 | Rockets | v | Bulleen | BJS | 5.00pm |

## OUR VISITORS

On October 29, at an extraordinary general meeting, Wollongong members unanimously voted to allow a consortium of local business people to take over the club. It is envisaged that the consortium will raise over $1 million and provide the business knowledge to establish the Wolves, only the second privately owned club in Australia, as one of the A-League's strongest clubs. Nick Theodorakooulos must be excited at the prospect of having money to spend on team building; however, with limited resources at his disposal he has done a wonderful job in making the Wolves such a competitive side.

The Wolves picked-up their first piece of silverware before the A-League season had even started; winning the Waratah Cup. The competition is open to all sides in NSW, and Wollongong defeated Marconi 3-1 in the semi-final and Premier League Bankstown City Lions 2-0 in the final.

Nick Theodorakopoulos made several signings during the off season: George Sorras and midfielder David Huxley were signed from Premier League club Parramatta Eagles and Raymond Younis, winner of a relay gold medal at the NSW athletics championships, was brought from Bankstown . In addition, Robbie Stanton was signed from Marconi making the Wolves, the versatile defender's fourth club. Earlier in the month, the club also signed the ex-Falcons, Fijian international Esala Masi who was on the books of Queensland State League club Rochdale Rovers.

After their first game, against Adelaide City was postponed, the Wolves started their campaign against the Brisbane Strikers at Win stadium, where they're playing whilst Brandon Park is being resurfaced. Wollongong had enough possession to have won the game but lacked penetration and lost 1-0. Similarly they struggled to convert their superiority into goals at the Melbourne Knights, losing to a Ransford Banini goal. A Scott Chipperfield goal in the 20th minute earned the Wolves their first point of the season against the Newcastle Breakers in their third game. Having finally broken their 'duck' the Wolves easily defeated UTS Olympic 3-0 at the Sydney Football Stadium. Tony Perenich opened the scoring with a header after only five minutes and Connelly and Spencer scored before half-time to effectively end the game as a contest.

The following week, before a crowd of almost 6,000 at Win stadium, the Wolves thrashed Marconi 5-1 with goals by Ceccoli, Chipperfield 2, Connolly and Surjan. Long-time Wolves fans considered it to be one of the club's greatest performances. A Tony Surjan penalty gave the Wollongong a 1-0 lead against the Sharks in Adelaide, but the side could not register their third successive win, loosing 3-1.



## PLAYERS TO WATCH

Nick Theodorakopoulos has relied heavily on the clubs successful youth policy. 20 year-old midfielder **NOEL SPENCER**, who started in the 3-0 win over Olympic, quit the Illawara Premier League to join the Wolves youth team before being rewarded with a place in the senior squad.

The most successful youth product is undoubtedly **MATT HORSLEY** who despite being only 23, is the Wolves record-games holder having beaten the previous record of 160 games held by Ray Vliestra.

Yet another youth team graduate is **SCOTT CHIPPERFIELD** who is one of the league's most tolerant young players & with tremendous pace and scoring ability. He scored two goals against Marconi and his pace caused Olympic many problems and led to Ante Juric being red-carded for bringing him down.

One player who is looking at making up for lost time is **TONY PERINICH**, who signed from NSW Super League club Rockdale and impressed in 1995/96 with nine goals. He scored only sparingly last season because of a knee injury that required two cartilage operations. His scoring ability is crucial to the Wolves chance of making the finals.

One player who hasn't figured at all for Wollongong this season is **SEBASTIAN SINOZIC**, who represented Australia in the 1997 World Youth Cup in Malaysia and has been trialling in Denmark and Germany. He is back in Australia but may move to a European club during the season.

### PREVIOUS RESULTS
### SOUTH MELBOURNE V UTS OLYMPIC
**(Courtesy of John Punshon)**

| **Played 27** | | **Won 13** | | | **Drawn 8** | | **Lost 6** |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Goals** | | **For 41** | | | **Against 24** | | |
| | **H** | **A** | | | **H** | **A** | |
| 1981 | 1-0 | 1-1 | | 1991-92 | 1-0 | 0-0 | |
| 1982 | 3-0 | 0-1 | | 1992-93 | 2-1 | 2-1 | |
| 1983 | 0-1 | 2-2 | | 1993-94 | 0-0 | 0-0 | |
| 1988 | 2-1 | 0-4 | | 1994-95 | 3-1 | 2-3 | |
| 1989 | 0-2 | 4-1 | | 1995-96 | 6-0 | 0-2 | 2-1 |
| 1989-90 | 0-0 | 2-0 | | 1996-97 | 3-0 | 1-1 | |
| 1990-91 | 0-0 | 4-1 | | | | | |

South Melbourne score is first

## 1997/98 ERICSSON CUP TABLE

| | P | W | D | L | F | A | POINTS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sydney United | 8 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 14 | 4 | 18 |
| Perth Glory | 8 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 12 | 16 |
| Carlton | 8 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 11 | 6 | 15 |
| South Melbourne | 8 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 17 | 9 | 14 |
| Adelaide Sharks | 8 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 15 | 14 | 13 |
| Marconi Fairfield | 7 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| Wollongong Wolves | 7 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 12 | 7 | 10 |
| UTS Olympic | 8 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 8 | 12 | 10 |
| Adelaide City | 5 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 9 |
| Melbourne Knights | 7 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 8 | 9 |
| Newcastle Breakers | 7 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 8 | 11 | 6 |
| Gippsland Falcons | 8 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 6 |
| Canberra Cosmos | 8 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 15 | 5 |
| Brisbane Strikers | 8 | 1 | 0 | 7 | 4 | 12 | 3 |

### LEADING GOAL SCORERS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Pablo Cardozo | Adel Sharks | 8 |
| Clayton Zane | Newcastle | 4 |
| Abbas Saad | Sydney Utd | 4 |
| Paul Trimboli | South Melb | 4 |
| Scott Chipperfield | Wollongong | 4 |

### THIS WEEK'S GAMES

**Round 9**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fri | Nov | 28 | 7.30pm | Newcastle | v | Brisbane |
| Fri | Nov | 28 | 7.30pm | Marconi | v | Carlton |
| Fri | Nov | 28 | 7.30pm | Canberra | v | Melb Knights |
| Sun | Nov | 30 | 6.00pm | Gippsland | v | Perth |
| Sun | Nov | 30 | 6.30pm | UTS Olympic | v | Adel City |
| Sun | Nov | 30 | 7.30pm | Adel Sharks | v | Sydney Utd |

### NEXT WEEK'S GAMES

**Round 10**

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Fri | Dec | 5 | 7.30pm | Sydney Utd | v | Gippsland |
| Fri | Dec | 5 | 7.30pm | Melb Knights | v | Newcastle |
| Sat | Dec | 6 | 5.30pm | Carlton | v | Adel Sharks |
| Sat | Dec | 6 | 7.00pm | Brisbane | v | UTS Olympic |
| Sun | Dec | 7 | 5.00pm | Perth | v | South Melb |
| Sun | Dec | 7 | 6.30pm | Wollongong | v | Canberra |

## SOUTH MELBOURNE

1. Michael Petkovic
2. Steve Iosifidis
3. Fausto De Amicis
4. Nick Orlic
5. Con Blatsis
6. David Clarkson
7. Steve Panopoulos
8. Vaughan Coveny
9. Paul Trimboli
10. Michael Curcija
11. Billy Damianos
12. Con Boutsianis
13. Jason Polak
15. Goran Lozanovski
16. Tansell Baser
17. John Anastasiadis
18. Robert Liparoti
19. George Goutzoulis
20. Chris Jones
21. John Tambouras
22. Frank Catalono

## WOLLONGONG CITY

1. Brett Hughes
2. Raymond Younis
3. Alvin Ceccoli
4. Robert Stanton
5. Jason Connolly
6. Mathew Horsley (c)
7. Sonny Sevin
8. Anthony Surjan
9. Sasho Dimoski
10. Michael Reda
11. Scott Chipperfield
12. George Souris
13. Noel Spencer
14. Tony Perinich
15. David Huxley
16. Michael Kariamis
18. Colin Luff
19. Sebastian Sinozic
20. Adam Brodbeck
21. Esala Masi

Shots at Goal :
Corners :
Free Kicks :
Offsides :

Referee:
Crowd:
Weather:

Shots at Goal:
Corners :
Free Kicks :
Offsides :

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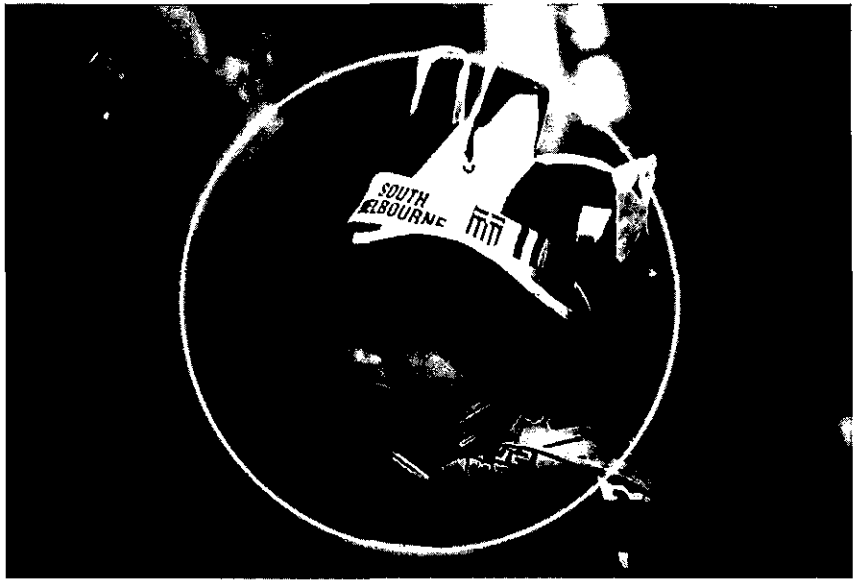


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# KNOW YOUR ENEMY?

It's one of the catch-cries of war. But when it came to studying the form of the Asian World Cup hopefuls, it was pretty much a lost cause. The local print media either didn't know what was happening or didn't care; whilst the electronic media were simply indifferent to the whole process and showed little interest until the final play-off in Kuala Lumpur.

SBS aside of course. Once again, they came to the rescue showing a few highlights each Monday night on World Sports and then devoting increasingly larger slabs of discussion time to the qualifiers during "On the Ball'. Sadly, the level of discussion by the various panelists only served to highlight their ignorance of football in that region. If the purpose of a panel is to educate the public, they failed badly.

But the picture was far different for those with pay television, with ESPN, CNN and the various other overseas news networks showing highlights of almost all the matches, whilst subscribers to the Arabic networks could tune in to the Middle East matches live (*See below). And if you lived the life of a hermit armed with Foxtel and Optus, and refused to discuss anything except Uzbeki injuries and Saudi suspensions, you had half a chance of keeping up with it all.

Pity none of the local soccer writers bothered. Imagine their horror when the Iran FA refused to release basic player information! Suddenly they pooled their resources and realized they had nothing. It must have been bewildering for Australian viewers during the first leg to be totally unfamiliar with the Iran players. With a number of SBS personnel in Tehran, it seamed feasible that information could be zapped back to Sydney for Les and his panel to chew over. Hmm... maybe not.

What a total contrast to 1993 when Argentina visited, or 1985 when Scotland visited. Our media seemed to know more about the opposition than the Socceroos, and even the fans spent hours trying to guess BOTH starting line-ups!

Here's hoping Terry Venables and his scouts have kept a closer eye on this campaign's opposition than the media have.

* One of the most extraordinary telecasts I can remember. Nearly as funny as hearing Brazil matches on Spanish radio. Try it next June, it's simply insane!

# 1997-98 SENIOR SQUAD

**JOHN ANASTASIADIS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Midfielder |
| Born | 13-8-68 |
| Height | 179cm |
| Weight | 76kg |
| NSL Games | |
| Last Club | Paok |
| Internationals | Youth |
| Debut | 1997 |
| Nickname | |
| Shirt No | 17 |

**TANSELL BASER**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Defender |
| Born | 17.4.78 |
| Height | 190cm |
| Weight | 75kg |
| NSL Games | 25 |
| Last Club | Broadmeadows |
| Internationals | Youth |
| Debut | 1995 |
| Nickname | |
| Shirt No | 16 |

**CON BLATSIS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Defender |
| Born | 6.7.77 |
| Height | 190cm |
| Weight | 86kg |
| NSL Games | 37 |
| Last Club | AIS |
| Internationals | Youth |
| Debut | 1995 |
| Nickname | *Blats* |
| Shirt No | 5 |

**CON BOUTSIANIS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Midfielder |
| Born | 27.12.71 |
| Height | 5'10" |
| Weight | 75kg |
| NSL Games | 37 |
| Last Club | Collingwood |
| Internationals | |
| Debut | 1988 |
| Nickname | *Bootsi* |
| Shirt No | 12 |

**DAVID CLARKSON**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Midfielder |
| Born | 1.2.68 |
| Height | 176cm |
| Weight | 70kg |
| NSL Games | 108 |
| Last Club | Happy Valley HK |
| Internationals | |
| Debut | 1996 |
| Nickname | *Clarky* |
| Shirt No | 6 |

**VAUGHAN COVENY**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Striker |
| Born | 13.12.71 |
| Height | 6'2" |
| Weight | 85kg |
| NSL Games | 116 |
| Last Club | Wollongong |
| Internationals | New Zealand |
| Debut | 1995 |
| Nickname | *Kiwi* |
| Shirt No | 8 |

**MICHAEL CURCIJA**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Striker |
| Born | 27.6.77 |
| Height | 183cm |
| Weight | 80kg |
| NSL Games | 32 |
| Last Club | AIS |
| Internationals | Youth |
| Debut | 1995 |
| Nickname | |
| Shirt No | 10 |

**BILL DAMIANOS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Midfielder |
| Born | 18.4.77 |
| Height | 174cm |
| Weight | 70kg |
| NSL Games | 57 |
| Last Club | Sunshine GC |
| Internationals | Youth |
| Debut | 1994 |
| Nickname | |
| Shirt No | 11 |

**FAUSTO DE AMICIS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Defender |
| Born | 26.6.68 |
| Height | 170cm |
| Weight | 65kg |
| NSL Games | 139 |
| Last Club | Melbourne Knights |
| Internationals | Socceroo |
| Debut | 1996 |
| Nickname | |
| Shirt No | 3 |

**GEORGE GOUTZIOULIS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Midfielder |
| Born | 18.1.78 |
| Height | 180cm |
| Weight | 69kg |
| NSL Games | 2 |
| Last Club | Bentleigh Greens |
| Internationals | |
| Debut | 1996 |
| Nickname | *Shaggy* |
| Shirt No | 19 |



# PLAYER PROFILES

**STEVE IOSIFIDIS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Midfielder |
| Born | 28.12.73 |
| Height | 184cm |
| Weight | 76kg |
| NSL Games | 37 |
| Last Club | Heidelberg UTD |
| Internationals | |
| Debut | 1996 |
| Nickname | *Yosa* |
| Shirt No | 2 |

**ROBERT LIPAROTI**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Defender |
| Born | 2.4.78 |
| Height | 6'4" |
| Weight | 85kg |
| NSL Games | 1 |
| Last Club | Bulleen |
| Internationals | |
| Debut | 1996 |
| Nickname | *Lipa* |
| Shirt No | 18 |

**GORAN LOZANOVSKI**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Midfielder |
| Born | 11.1.74 |
| Height | 180cm |
| Weight | 86kg |
| NSL Games | |
| Last Club | Collingwood |
| Internationals | Socceroo |
| Debut | 1997 |
| Nickname | Loza, Gibbo |
| Shirt No | 15 |

**NICK ORLIC**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Defender |
| Born | 6.8.70 |
| Height | 6'3" |
| Weight | 92kg |
| NSL Games | 98 |
| Last Club | UTS Olympic |
| Internationals | |
| Debut | 1996 |
| Nickname | |
| Shirt No | 4 |

**STEVE PANOPOULOS**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Midfielder |
| Born | 23.6.75 |
| Height | 169cm |
| Weight | 68kg |
| NSL Games | 77 |
| Last Club | Oakleigh |
| Internationals | |
| Debut | 1992 |
| Nickname | *Pana* |
| Shirt No | 7 |

**MICHAEL PETKOVIC**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Goalkeeper |
| Born | 16.7.76 |
| Height | 6'3" |
| Weight | 80kg |
| NSL Games | 41 |
| Last Club | Perth Kangaroos |
| Internationals | Olyroos |
| Debut | 1995 |
| Nickname | *Petka* |
| Shirt No | 1 |

**JASON POLAK**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Midfielder |
| Born | 9.1.68 |
| Height | 5'11" |
| Weight | 80kg |
| NSL Games | 183 |
| Last Club | Newcastle Breakers |
| Internationals | Socceroo |
| Debut | 1992 |
| Nickname | |
| Shirt No | 13 |

**PAUL TRIMBOLI**

| | |
|---|---|
| Position | Striker |
| Born | 25.2.69 |
| Height | 173cm |
| Weight | 74kg |
| NSL Games | 290 |
| Last Club | Sunshine GC |
| Internationals | Socceroo |
| Debut | 1988 |
| Nickname | *Trimmers* |
| Shirt No | 9 |

**Manager/Coach:**
Ange Postecoglou

**Assistant Coach**
Carl Halford

**Assistant Coach**
Mike Petersen

# WORLD CUP TRIVIA

IRAN? you could almost hear the groans all the way from Sydney. Naturally Soccer Australia would have preferred to be marketing a clash with Japan, put the nationality of the opposition shouldn't prevent a full house at the MCG tomorrow night. Every Victorian soccer fan should have his ticket by now, and if not, good luck.

By the time you read this the result of the first leg will be well known and everybody will have an opinion on whether Australia can build on its first leg lead or Iran can produce a remarkable turnaround. Well, that's the way I hope we're all thinking! But regardless of the first leg result we are going to witness history. Just make sure you get there.

So for this week, we'll have a quiz with the right sort of theme....

**QUIZ QUESTIONS**

1. In which two cities did Australia play World Cup Finals matches in 1974?
2. In the 1974 final, how many German players touched the ball before Holland opened the scoring?

3. Which three teams did Iran play in the 1978 finals in Argentina?

4. Everybody remembers Algeria defeating West Germany at the 1982 finals, but which other country did Algeria defeat in the group?

5. Which of the quarter finals in 1986 finished goalless after extra time?

6. Who scored the opening goal in the 1994 World Cup Finals?

7. Which player celebrated his goal in the 1994 finals by signaling like a AFL goal umpire?

8. Oleg Salenko stole the headlines in 1994 when he scored five goals against Camerroon. Only one other player scored a hat trick at the 1994 finals. Who?

9. Which three Italian players' missed their penalties in the 1994?

**AND FINALLY, FOR ALL THOSE WHO RECKON THEY KNOW IT ALL....**

10. Which country did not qualify for the 1982 finals even though they were undefeated in all their matches?

## ANSWERS

1. Hamburg (twice) and Berlin
2. None
3. Holland, Scotland and Peru
4. Chile
5. West Germany v Mexico
6. Jurgen Klinsmann (Germany v Bolivia)
7. Kennett Andersson (Sweden)
8. Gabriel Batistuta (Argentina)
9. Beresi, Massaro, Baggio
10. Somalia



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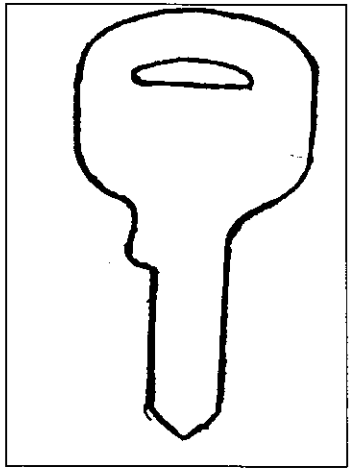

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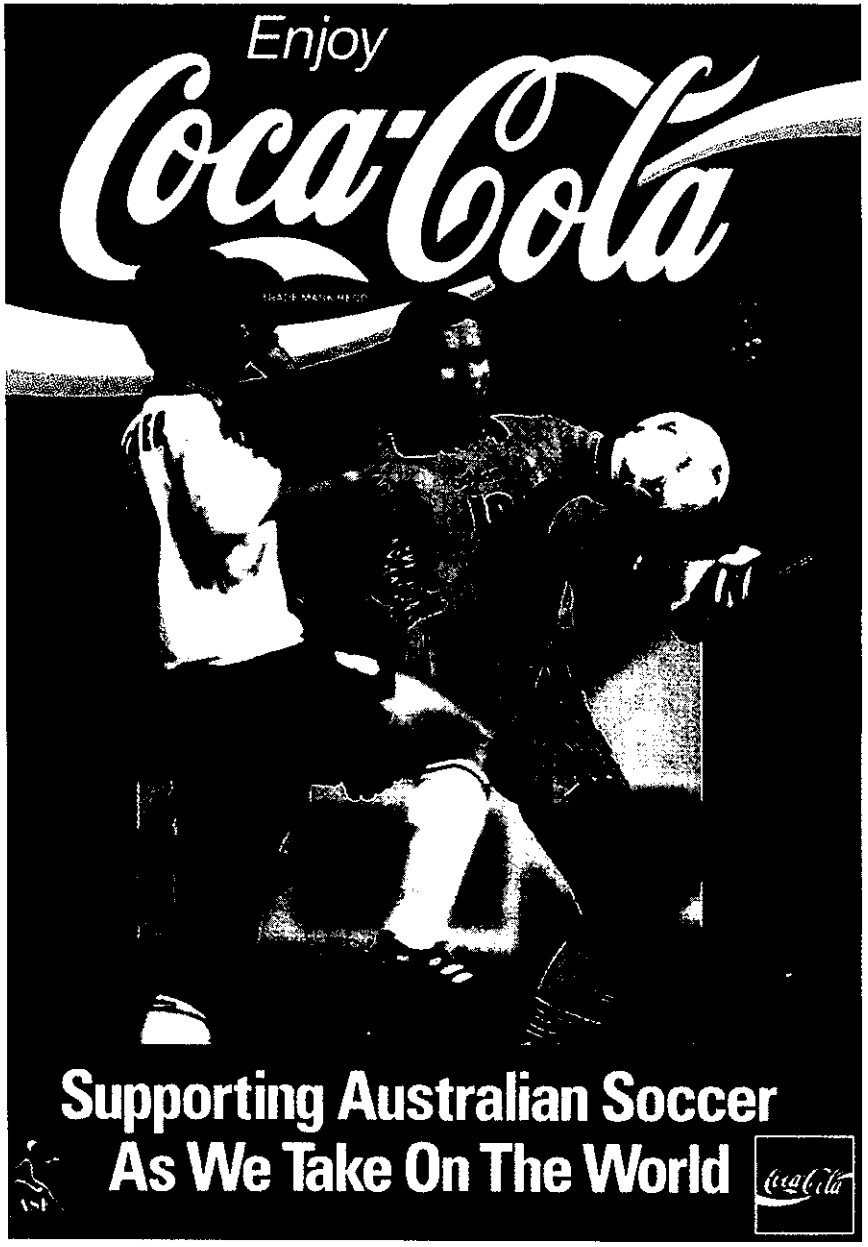

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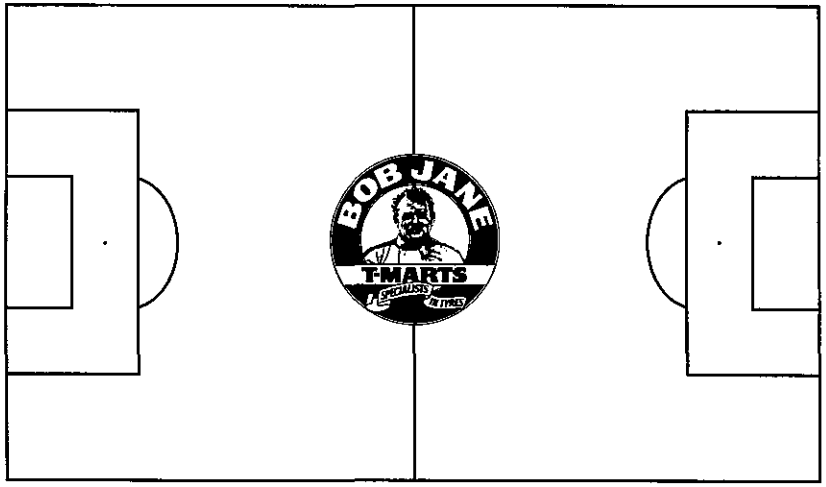


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# KEN'S KORNER

For those of you that can be bothered watching "On the Ball" on Sunday mornings, you may have found it interesting that most coaches find Knights Stadium and Perth Oval the most intimidating crowd venues in the league.

Back in the '80's things were different. Middle Park was a cauldron of fire for any away team, yet these days much of that fanatic support has dissipated. We do still have the mob behind the goals, but their chants are hard to hear, even when standing beside them. And they seem to be more involved with things that have nothing to do with soccer.

Last week's game in Iran was played in front of what is described as the most parochial crowd in the world. With 120,000 making a noise that would have made it difficult to hear the person sitting next to you.

I know it's a bit hard to do that at BJS, but wouldn't it be great if teams came here, and were confronted by a crowd similar to Perth's notorious 'Hill'? I'm well aware that we need to have an inviting family atmosphere, however I believe there is nothing wrong with a lot of noise coming from a certain part of the ground, such as behind the goals.

I must give credit to the 'Horsey Boys', who have gone a long way in creating the type of atmosphere I'm talking about. They have added a new and interesting dimension to our games, something that has been missing for a long time. Hopefully they can grow and become the new heart of the club's vocal support.

Good vocal support also has an effect on the players. Perhaps it may become the difference in changing these home draws into victories. Carlton S.C and Sydney United have tried to use loud speakers to create this atmosphere. But as every fan knows, the only thing worse than no atmosphere is an artificial one.

The one big advantage we have over most clubs (if not all), is that we have a great compact ground, that only needs a few thousand people to make it buzz. So lets all cheer for the boys, no matter what the score or the result. They need us to take them to that extra level.

# THE MOUTH AT SOUTH

What? No women allowed in the Teheran Stadium? Well that didn't stop Soccer Australia chairman, David Hill, sneaking in his girlfriend and a female backpacker into the stadium. Let's hope there's more than two ladies tomorrow night at the MCG! Not that most of the drunken men will notice, I think Viduka and Mr. C.U.B will have their undivided attention.

A certain SM. player was spotted recently, at Heat Night Club, surrounded by a large contingent of people. Apparently he was showing them a few pointers on how to score. Goals that is. ...Meanwhile across town in another popular night spot another star was shinning brightly... What we want to know is if the glitter on his face was self applied, or a result of a closer than close encounter.

South Melbourne has been seeing red all week. No its not a influx of communists at BJS! Samsung has come to town with a group of Korean players, to strut their stuff against our own world renowned players in a commercial to be shown around Asia and Australia. Who knows maybe will have the next Costas Mandylor, treading a path to Tinsel Town?

For all the latest news & gossip, listen to **'The Lakers Show'** on 3XY on Friday nights between 7pm to 9pm with Nicholas Tzaferis, Jim Stiliadis & Ange Postecoglou.

Also if you have any gossip that may be worth passing on, you can fax it thru to South Melbourne SC., attn.; **'The Mouth'** on **(03) 9645 9796** or mail it to - **South Melbourne Soccer Club, PO Box 1349, South Melbourne 3205**

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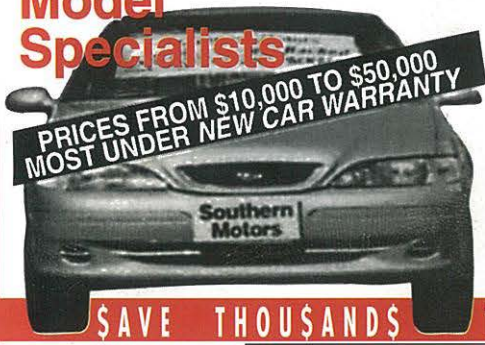


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